

WEBINAR

WEDNESDAYS



Wednesday, August 18, 2021

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

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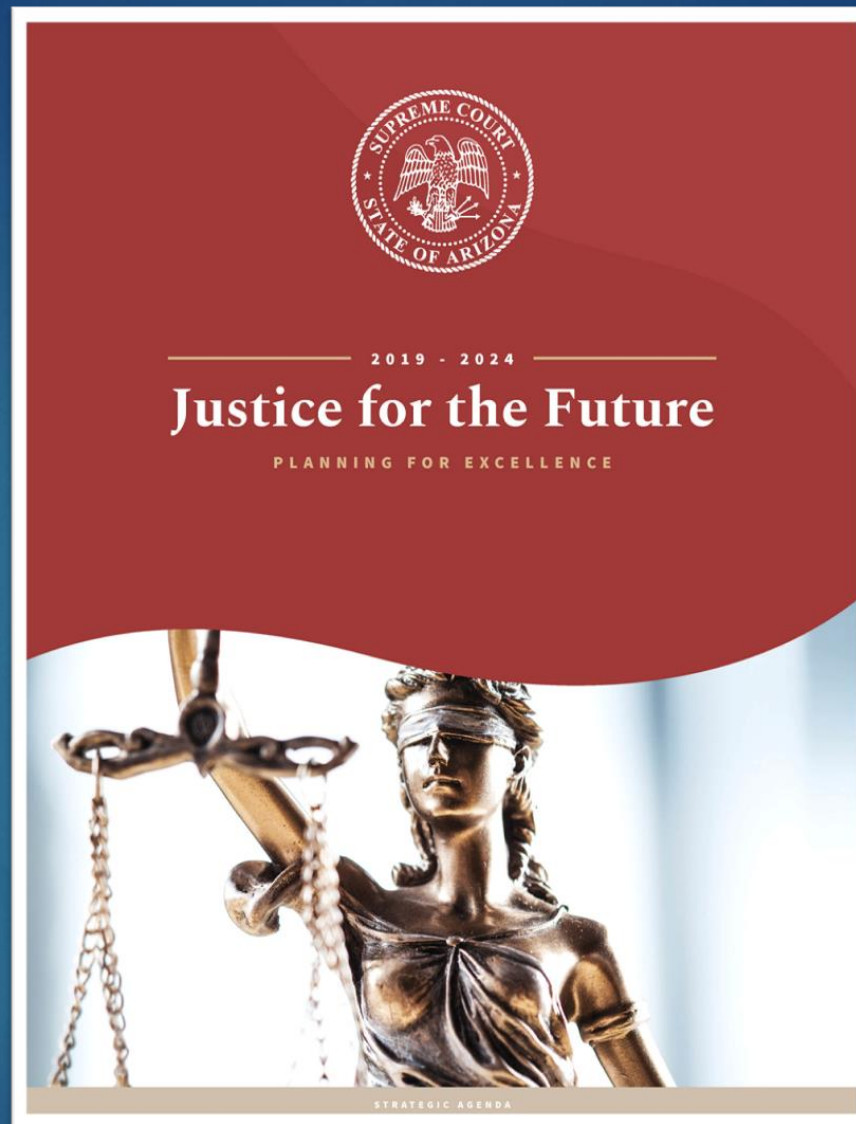
Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project

APAAC WEDNESDAY WEBINAR

AUGUST 18, 2021

Learning Objectives

- ▶ Gain understanding about:
 - ▶ Arizona's Juvenile Justice System Improvement Project (JJSIP)
 - ▶ The AZYAS Risk Assessment
 - ▶ The Recommendation Matrix
 - ▶ Correctional Program Checklist
 - ▶ Short-term Standard Probation and Risk Based Supervision
 - ▶ AOC contracted services targeting criminogenic and/or mental health needs



Goal 2: “Protecting Children, Families,
and Communities”

100



Juvenile Justice Collaborative Partners



Judges

Attorneys

Youth

Family

Community-Based Organizations/Stakeholders

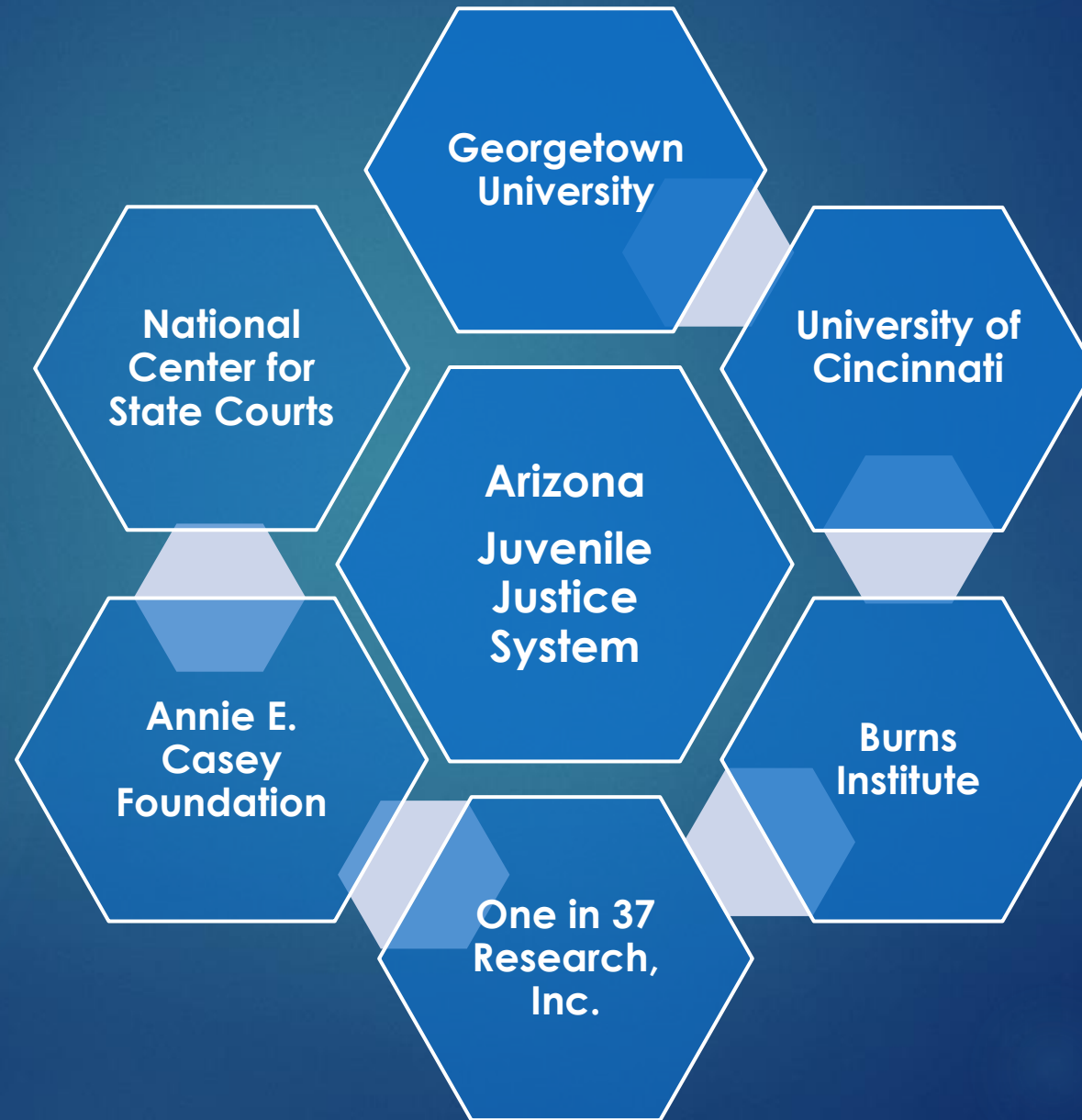
Behavioral Health

Education

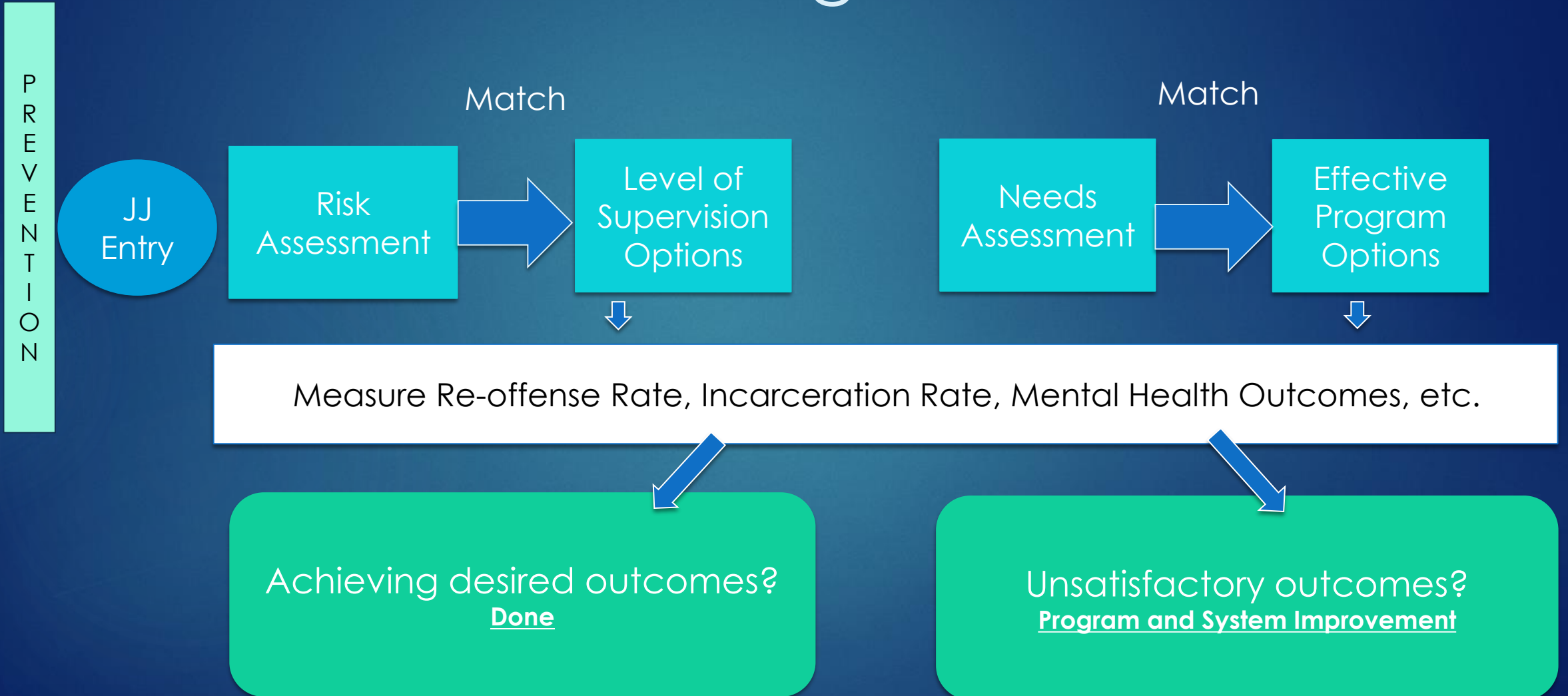
Child Welfare

Law Enforcement

National Partners



Visualizing the Evidence-Based Decision-Making Platform



Risk, Need and Responsivity

In recent years, juvenile justice professionals have recognized the research that shows that we are **more likely to achieve positive youth outcomes** and **reduce recidivism** if decisions regarding services and placement for court-involved youth are based on a risk, need, and responsivity framework.

Source: Dowden, C., & Andrews, D. A. (2000). Effective correctional treatment and reoffending: A meta-analysis.

Risk, Need, and Responsivity

Risk Principle

- Supervision and services should be focused on youth most likely to reoffend

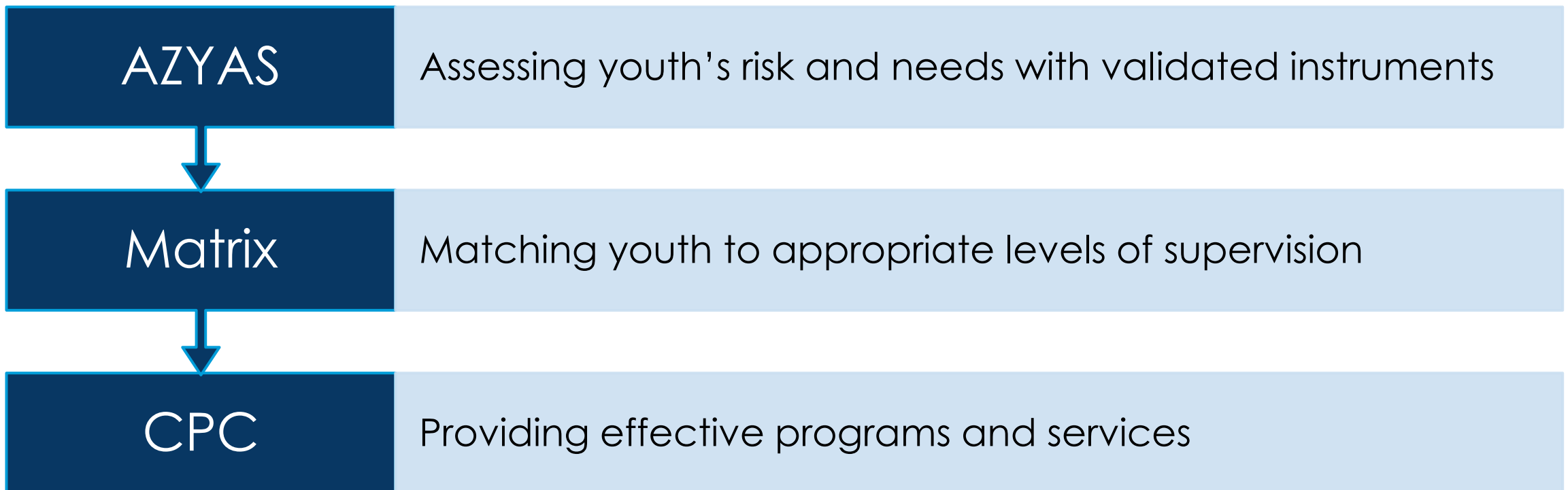
Need Principle

- Services should address the youth's criminogenic needs or dynamic risk factors—that is, those factors associated with delinquency (e.g., negative peer associations, anti-social attitudes, substance abuse, poor academic performance, family problems)

Responsivity Principle

- Services should help youth overcome barriers to learning, improving behavior, and responding to treatment (e.g., mental health, motivation, cognitive functioning)

JJSIP Evidence-Based Decision-Making Core Components



ARIZONA YOUTH
ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

AZYAS

Assessing Risk and Needs

Identify	Identify risk to re-offend and areas of need
Determine	Determine the appropriate level of supervision
Target	Target programs based on criminogenic needs



Arizona's standardized Risk Assessment since 2012



A research-based, validated tool



Identifies levels of risk to recidivate and criminogenic needs



AZYAS Disposition Instrument re-validated in 2019 using AZ data



AZYAS Disposition Instrument integral in the Recommendation Matrix

AZYAS -

Arizona
Youth
Assessment
System

*Juvenile Justice
History*

Family and
Living
Arrangements

Peers and Social
Support

Education and
Employment

Pro-Social Skill
Set

Substance
Abuse,
Personality, and
Mental Health

Values, Beliefs
and Attitudes

Treatment Priorities

JPO Recommendation Process



AZYAS Benefits

- ▶ Assesses overall risk level to recidivate
- ▶ Assesses risk domains
- ▶ Connects risk assessment with disposition
- ▶ Connects risk assessment with service interventions
- ▶ Re-assessment provides snapshot of change overtime



RECOMMENDATION MATRIX

A Dispositional Recommendation Tool for Juvenile
Probation Officers

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021

ACJA 6-301.01



*Working Together -
Matrix Development &
Implementation*

*COP = Committee on Probation
COJC = Committee on Juvenile Courts
PJs = Superior Court Presiding Judges
AJC = Arizona Judicial Council

Recommendation Matrix



AZ data used to development the Recommendation Matrix



Based on AZYAS risk level and seriousness of offense



Diversion is at the discretion of the County Attorney per A.R.S. 8-321 (C) and not part of the Matrix



Matrix does not limit attorney recommendations or judicial decisions

Recommendation Matrix



Consistent statewide approach that aligns with evidence-based decision-making



Used only when there is time between adjudication and disposition to complete the AZYAS Disposition instrument



Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (ACJA) § 6-301.01 & 6-302.01



Year long implementation period, data will be gathered to analyze how the matrix is used and its impact on recidivism

Important Decisions Need Time

- ▶ Doctors need time to make important medical decisions
- ▶ Attorneys need time to develop their prosecution and defense
- ▶ Probation officers need time to use evidence-based tools to assess a juvenile's risk level, identify unique attributes of a juvenile and make data-driven recommendations that match the juvenile with the right level of supervision, with the right interventions at the right time
- ▶ Judges need time to consider all information presented to make decisions based on the whole child and what is best for the child



Recommendation Matrix

Most Serious Adjudicated Offense	Low Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	Moderate Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	High Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)
Misdemeanor	Court Consequence; Short-term Standard Probation*	Court Consequence; Short-term Standard Probation*; Standard Probation*	Court Consequence; Short-term Standard Probation*; Standard Probation*
Felony Against Property & Non-Person	Court Consequence; Short-term Standard Probation*; Standard Probation*	Court Consequence; Short-term Standard Probation*; Standard Probation*	Standard Probation*; JIPS
Felony Against Person	Short-term Standard Probation*; Standard Probation*; JIPS	Standard Probation*; JIPS	Standard Probation*; JIPS; ADJC
Serious/Violent Felony Pursuant to A.R.S. 13-706(F)(1)(2)	Standard Probation*; JIPS	Standard Probation*; JIPS; ADJC	Standard Probation*; JIPS; ADJC

Optimal Recommendation

Least restrictive option in cell not previously attempted with juvenile

Data has shown that prescribing the least restrictive level of supervision provides the best outcome for reduced recidivism

First recommendation considered by the probation officer

The most frequent recommendation made

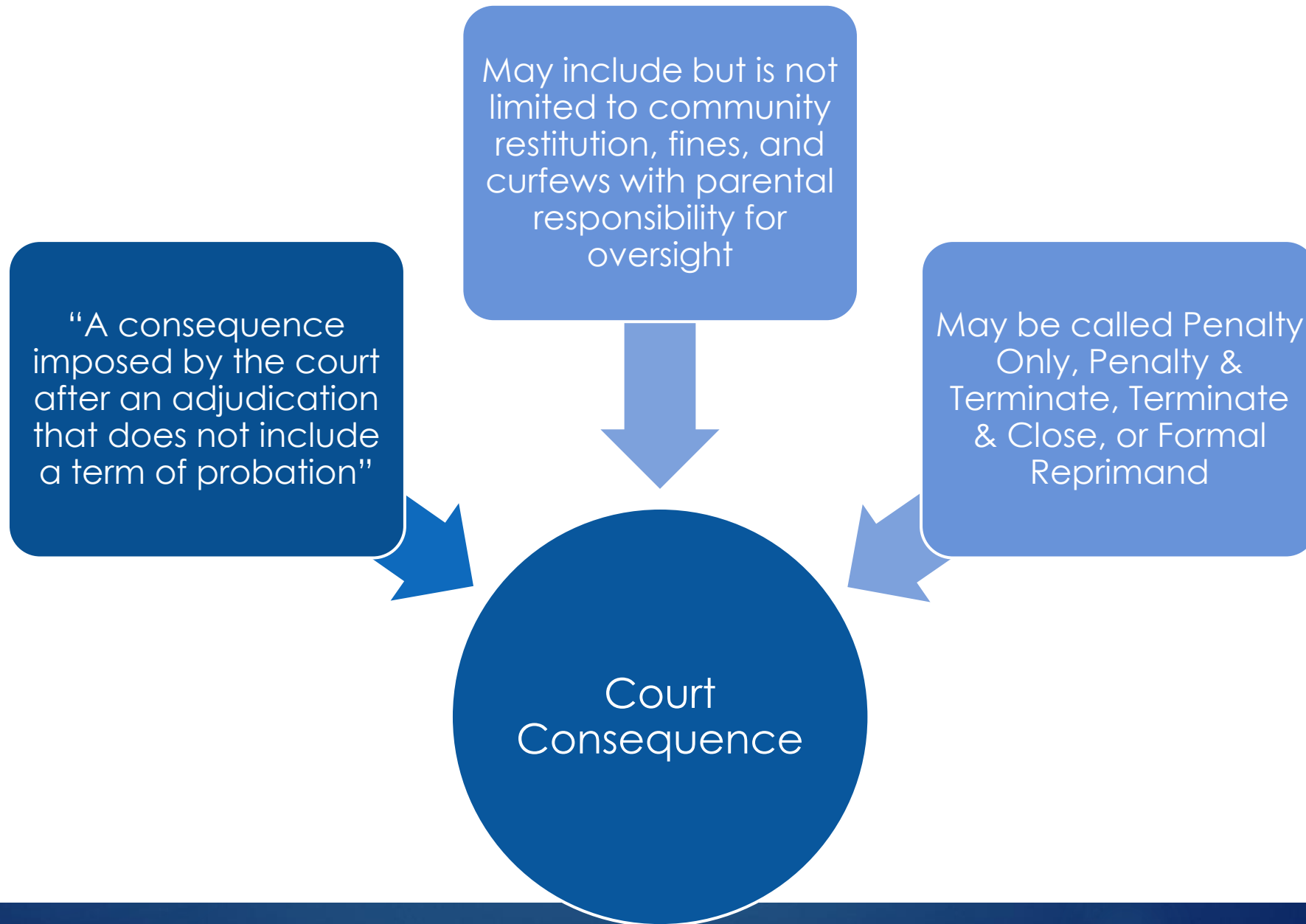
Above and Below Guidelines

“Matrix Above Guidelines”

means the disposition recommendation that is more restrictive than the Matrix would suggest. Research indicates this may result in higher recidivism.

“Matrix Below Guidelines”

means the disposition is less restrictive than the Matrix would suggest. Research indicates this may result in higher recidivism.



Applying the Recommendation Matrix

Matrix Used

New petition is filed

After adjudication & before
disposition

Any adjudicated delinquent
offense handled in Juvenile Court

Matrix Not Used

Case is handled through
Diversion

Matter pending is a probation
violation

Case remanded to Criminal Court

Status Offense

Matrix Tool Benefits

- ▶ Evidence-based tool that results in consistent statewide disposition recommendations
- ▶ Optimal recommendation identifies level of supervision that research shows reduces recidivism
- ▶ Allows JPO to use their judgment and experience in the disposition recommendation
- ▶ Does not restrict the court's disposition orders



*The Right Child, the Right Service, the
Right Reason, at the Right Time*



Senate Bill 1166

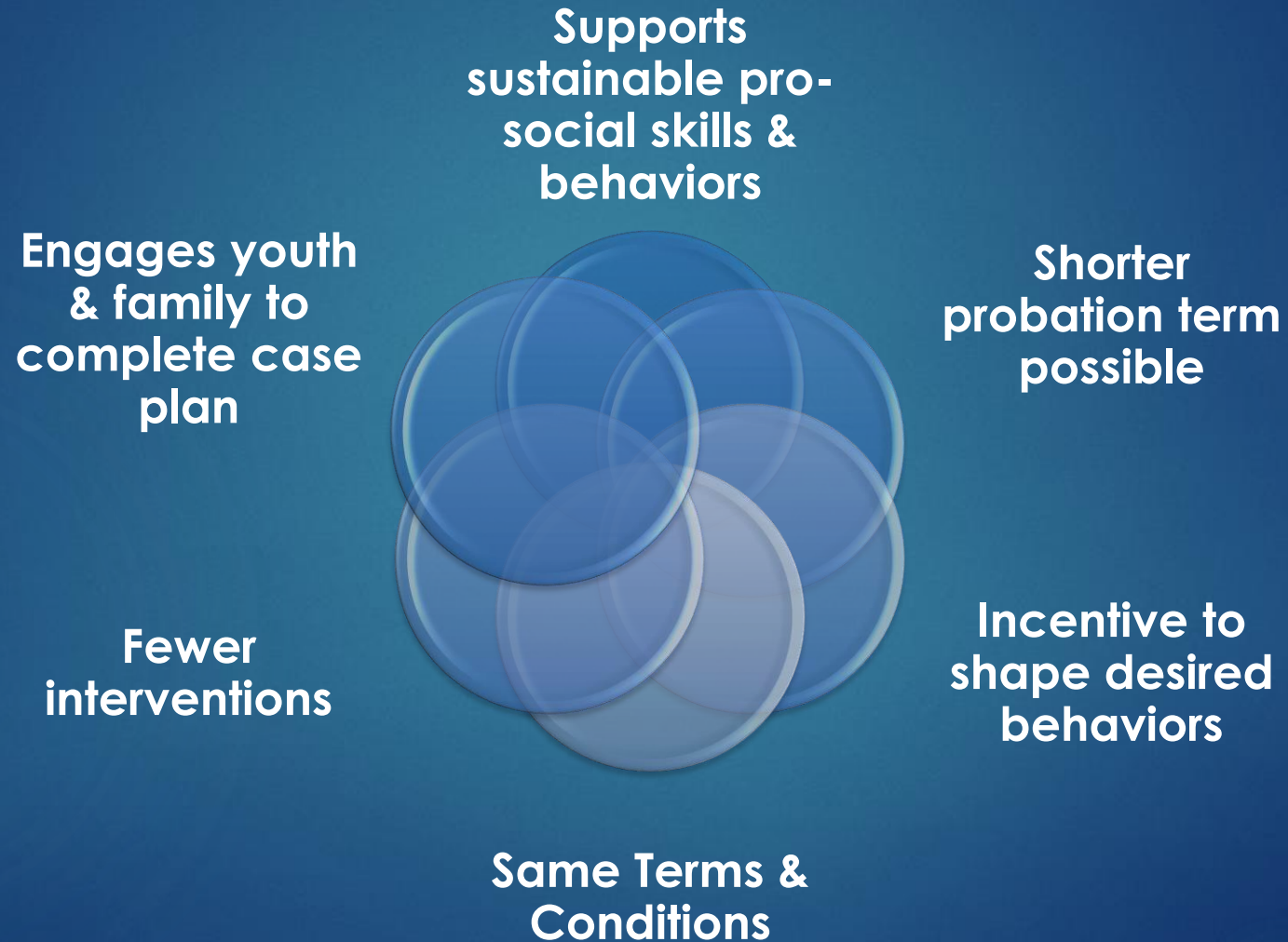
- ▶ A.R.S. §8-341(D): If a juvenile is fourteen years of age or older and is adjudicated as a repeat felony juvenile offender, **UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES BASED ON THE SEVERITY OF THE OFFENSE AND A RISK ASSESSMENT THAT JUVENILE INTENSIVE PROBATION SERVICES ARE NOT REQUIRED**, the juvenile court shall place the juvenile on juvenile intensive probation, which may include ~~home arrest and electronic monitoring, may place the juvenile on juvenile intensive probation, which may include~~ incarceration ~~for a period of time~~ in a juvenile detention center, or may commit the juvenile to the department of juvenile corrections pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 1, subdivision (e) of this section ~~for a significant period of time~~.

Short-term Standard Probation

ACJA 6-301.01

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021

Short-term Standard Probation



Standard Probation Risk- Based Supervision

ACJA 6-301.01

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2021

Risk-based Supervision Contact Standards

Low Risk

- One monthly visual contact with the juvenile

Moderate Risk

- Two monthly visual contacts with the juvenile

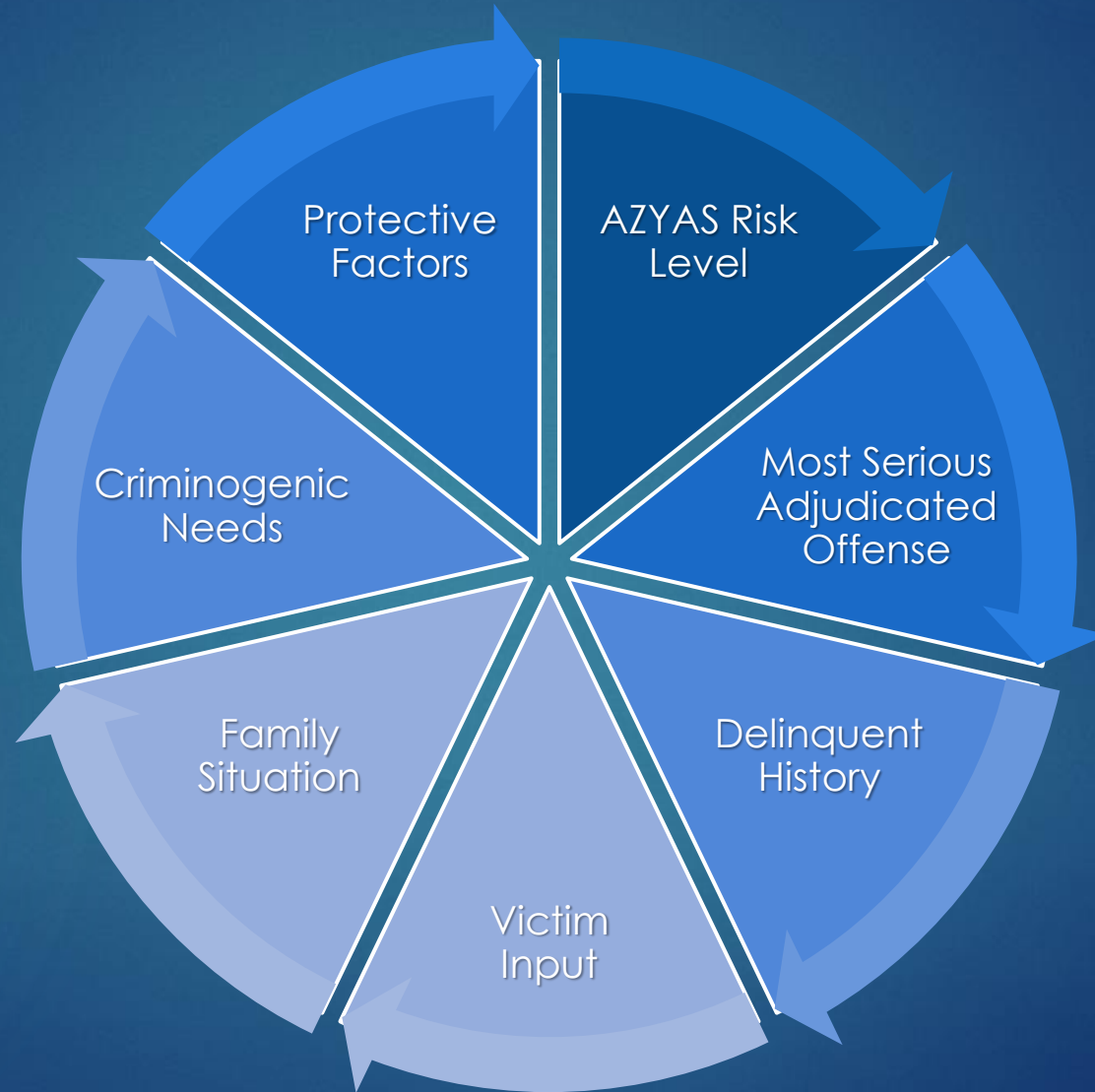
High Risk

- Three monthly visual contacts with the juvenile



Case Scenarios

CASE CONSIDERATIONS



Sedona


Sedona is a 15-year-old female with three referrals in her juvenile justice history. At age 12, Sedona had her 1st referral for Shoplifting, a Class 1 Misdemeanor and completed Diversion. At age 13, she was adjudicated on her 2nd referral for Criminal Trespass, a Class 1 Misdemeanor. Her AZYAS Risk Level was assessed to be low at the time of the Criminal Trespass adjudication and she received a disposition of Court Consequence.

In this 3rd referral, Sedona has been adjudicated and is pending disposition for Unlawful Use of a Means of Transportation, a Class 6 Felony. Her current AZYAS Risk Level is Moderate.

Sedona is in DCS custody and lives with her grandmother and siblings in a kinship placement due to parental neglect. She is enrolled in school and is a member of her school marching band. Her Social Studies teacher and the Band Director are positive adults in her life.

Sedona

Referral Offenses	Delinquent History	Social Background	Most Severe Adjudicated Offense Category	Risk Level Details	Optimal Disposition Recommendation
Unlawful Use of a Means of Transportation (F6)	1 Shoplifting referral = Completed Diversion 1 Criminal Trespass referral = Completed Court Consequence	15 years of age; DCS custody; Lives with grandmother Attends school; Marching band; positive adults in life	Felony Against Property & Non-Person	AZYAS Score in Moderate-Risk Level	Optimal Disposition = Short-term Standard Probation

Most Serious Adjudicated Offense	Low Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	Moderate Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	High Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)
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Duncan

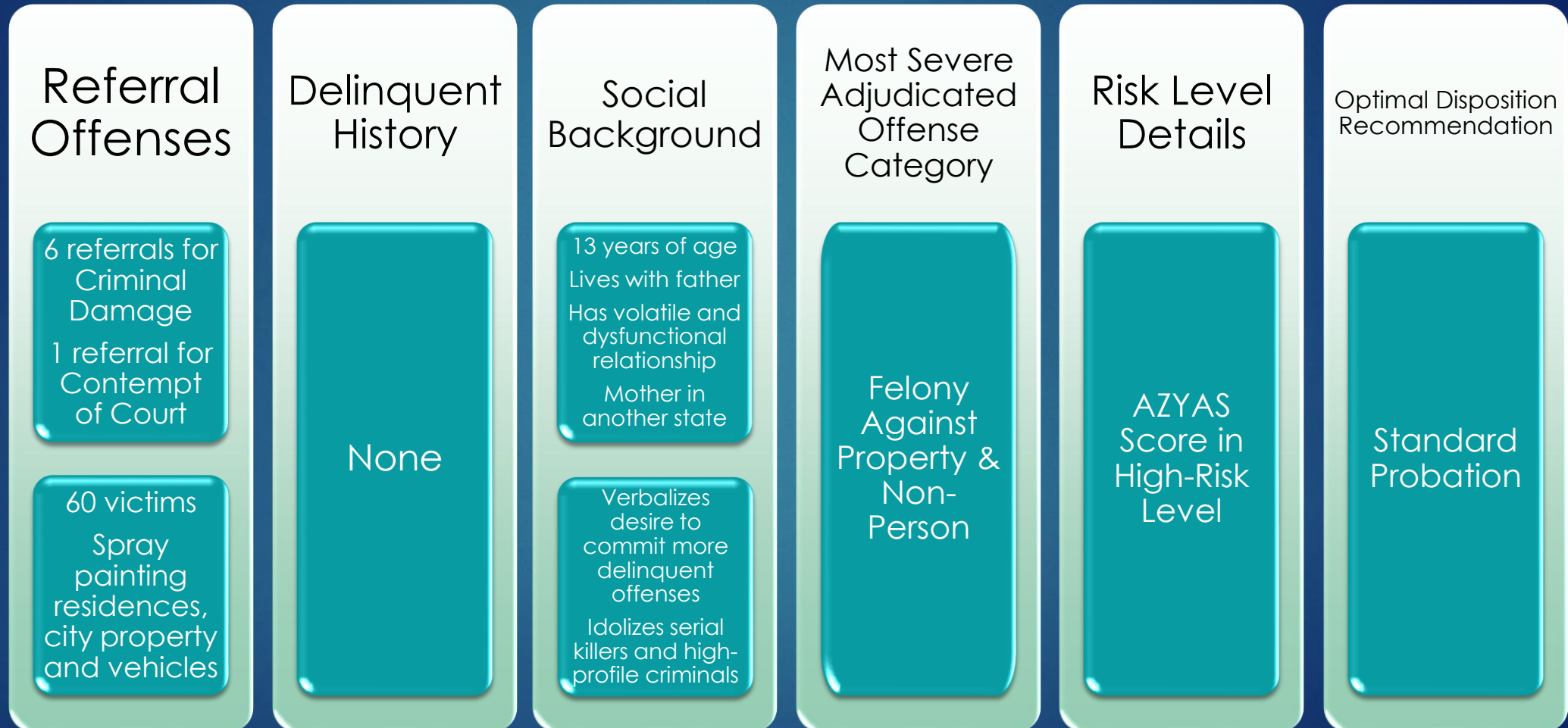
Duncan is a 13-year-old male with seven referrals, all related to the same event. Six of the referrals are for Criminal Damage and combined have approximately 60 victims whose properties were spray painted. He has one referral for Contempt of Court after he cut off his GPS monitoring device and absconded pending Adjudication Hearing. Duncan has no other juvenile justice involvement.


Duncan lives with his father, and they have a dysfunctional, volatile relationship. They have been uncooperative with the probation department during the disposition process. Mother lives out of state. There is no reported mental health diagnosis but Duncan reports marijuana and alcohol use. He makes statements desiring to continue delinquent behavior and idolizing high-profile criminals.

The victims are vocal and concerned for their safety, especially those living close to Duncan. Law enforcement is active in their efforts to see Duncan placed, at minimum, on JIPS.

Duncan was assessed using the AZYAS Disposition Instrument and is considered high risk to reoffend. His seven referrals were combined into one disposition, and he was adjudicated for one count of Criminal Damage, a Class 4 Felony.

Duncan



Most Serious Adjudicated Offense	Low Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	Moderate Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	High Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)
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Wendon

In his 3rd referral, Wendon, age 17, has been adjudicated for Aggravated Assault, a Class 3 Felony and is pending disposition. His AZYAS Risk Level is high. In this instance, Wendon entered the residence of his mother's boyfriend, confronting the man and engaging him in a physical altercation resulting in hospitalization with serious injuries.

Wendon is currently enrolled in school but behind on school credits and is classified as a freshman; he works under an IEP for reading disabilities. He has self-reported ongoing use of alcohol.

Wendon's juvenile justice history includes a referral at age 12 for underage drinking and curfew violation for which he received and completed Diversion.

At age 14, Wendon received his 2nd referral and was placed on Standard Probation for Assault, a Class 1 Misdemeanor. While on probation for Assault, Wendon participated in a mental health treatment program that included family counseling, to address his sense of abandonment by his father who left the family when Wendon was 4 years old. Wendon responded well to the structure of probation and completed a twelve-month probation term without violation.

Wendon

Referral Offenses

Aggravated Assault (F3)

Delinquent History

Underage Drinking & Curfew Violation = Completed Diversion

Assault (M1)= Completed Standard Probation

Unlawful Use of Means of Transportation (F5)= JIPS

Social Background

17 yrs of age
Absent Father
Volatile relationship with mother's boyfriend

Past Counseling success
Enrolled in school
Has an IEP
Behind in school credits
Alcohol Use

Most Serious Adjudicated Offense Category

Felony Against Person

Risk Level Details

AZYAS Score in High-Risk Level

Optimal Disposition Recommendation

Optimal Disposition = JIPS

Most Serious Adjudicated Offense	Low Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	Moderate Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)	High Risk to Reoffend (AZYAS)
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Addressing Criminogenic and Mental Health Needs

A CONTINUUM OF CONTRACTED SERVICES

Continuum of AOC Contracted Services

(outpatient/community-based)



Continuum of AOC Contracted Services

(out-of-home care)



Matrix Implementation and Ongoing Support

All JPOs statewide received Matrix training

Three trainings offered to Juvenile Court Judges/Commissioners, Attorneys & Court Directors

County Matrix Trainers are local resources

County Trainers will provide overview trainings to future juvenile court officers and attorneys

JJSD Staff available for support and technical assistance

JPO Matrix SharePoint resource sites



Thank You

JJSD Matrix Team

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Specialist: AZYAS/Matrix Training

Amy Stuart, Research and Automation
Manager